

**EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE**

## **CHICKEN SHORTAGE IN DEATH VALLEY**

Death Valley is in the midst of a chicken shortage. Officials from the Board of Animal Health (BOAH) have been surveying the county and quarantining chickens contaminated with BAF or Bird and Feather Disease. Over 400 flocks of chicken have been quarantined and gassed.

BAF is an air born disease with over 100 different strains, with many that affect humans. This disease is spreading over 12 miles of land and is starting to contaminate neighboring counties. When being evaluated if a flock has a single chicken infected every other chicken in that flock must be euthanized. With over 400 flocks infected and about 75 chickens per flock, the chicken population has already decreased by at least 30,000.

In order to lawfully euthanize the birds they are stuffed in large trash cans and a hose is tied to the end of a pick up truck exhaust pipe and fed to a hole in the trash can. They are then buried in nearby landfills where they are away from normal population.

Officials warn that proper preparation of poultry is still necessary in order to eliminate the risk of any food born illnesses.